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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,441	10/31/2003	Takanobu Adachi	SHO-0022	7736

23353 7590 11/13/2006

RADER FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC  
LION BUILDING  
1233 20TH STREET N.W., SUITE 501  
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

BANTA, TRAVIS R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/697,441

Applicant(s)

ADACHI ET AL.

Examiner

Travis R. Banta

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/5/05, 10/22/04, 6/18/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Loose et al US(6,517,433).

Regarding claim 1, Loose et al ('433) discloses a gaming machine with a display (see column 2 lines 27-35). The machine has a means to generate a bonus round and a predetermined win that is displayed on the display (see column 3:11-14 and 48-50). The display is comprised of rotating slot wheels and an LCD screen that is disposed on the front side of the gaming machine (see figure 1). The displays both have associated display areas (see column 3 line 41-44). Game information is displayed on the rotating slot wheels and on the LCD screen so it is able to move between displays (see column 2 lines 27-35).

Regarding claim 2, Loose et al ('433) discloses that the rotating slot wheels are viewable through a transmissive LCD screen so that the rotating slot wheels are included in the means for the second display (see column 3 lines 41-44).

Regarding claim 3, Loose et al ('433) discloses that the rotating slot wheels are a moving component and the LCD screen is not. It is inherent that the game information

on the slot wheels would have a greater velocity than that of the information on the LCD (see column 3 lines 41-44 and column 2 lines 27-35).

Regarding claim 4, Loose et al ('433) discloses the first display to be an area where the game result is displayed (see column 3 lines 50-55).

Regarding claim 5, Loose et al ('433) teaches an almost instantaneous stop display time when the rotating slot wheels stop spinning. The LCD continues to accentuate the result of the game and therefore has a longer stop display time than the rotating slot wheels (see column 4 lines 3-11).

Regarding claim 6, Loose et al ('433) teaches that the display mode is changeable by human interaction (see column 5 lines 24-30).

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Ozaki et al. US PUB(2001/0031658) teaches a gaming machine for use with displaying two different patterns via two displays, one superimposed on the other.**

**Ozaki et al. US PUB(2006/0079323) teaches a display for a gaming machine for use in displaying two patterns via two displays, one superimposed on the other.**

**Loose et al. US PUB(2004/0198485) teaches the use of a two layer display in a gaming machine with optional bonus features.**

**Emori et al. US(2004/0166925) teaches beneficial states using an LCD screen superimposed over rotating slot wheels.**

**Cole et al. US(2004/0018870) teaches removing rotating slot reels to install an thinner screen.**

**Watanabe et al. US(6,866,582) teaches slot reels with a corresponding superimposed LCD.**

**Weiss et al. US(6,623,582) teaches using an LCD with rotating slot wheels to free space inside the game machine cabinet.**


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Travis R. Banta whose telephone number is (571) 272-1615. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hotaling can be reached on (571) 272-4437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TB

  
JOHN N. HOTALING, II  
PRIMARY EXAMINER